



Peter and John Preach the Gospel

Acts 3:1–4:31



LESSON GOAL

The child will trust in Jesus' name for salvation.

LESSON OBJECTIVES

- Explain the significance of a name in Bible times.
- Tell how Jesus' name was exalted in the temple area.
- Describe Peter and John's reaction to the Sanhedrin's questions and rebuke.
- Tell how the believers' prayer was answered.

KEY VERSE

"Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved." —*Acts 4:12*

APPLICATION

- Rejoice that Jesus has power and authority to save men!
- Praise God for allowing you the blessing of hearing about salvation in Jesus' name.
- When you have to choose, obey God rather than men.
- Proclaim salvation in Jesus' name with boldness.

NEXT WEEK

Ananias and Sapphira Lie to the Holy Spirit
Acts 4:32–5:11

Symbol Key



Craft



Memory Verse



Object Lesson



Game



Visual Aid



Activity



Q & A



Work Sheet



2 Grade Level

PREPARE WITH THE TRUTH

“Therefore you shall lay up these words of mine in your heart and in your soul... you shall teach them to your children.” —Deuteronomy 11:18–19

Please take time to prepare your mind and heart to accurately handle the truths of God’s Word (2 Tim. 2:15). Read through the Bible background and study the truths contained in this lesson. Crucial background information is included here that will aid you in understanding the Scripture.

Bible Background

Introduction

Following Peter’s Pentecost sermon, about three–thousand Jews repented of their sins and were baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Those baptized in Jesus’ name proclaimed their identification with Jesus and admitted their dependence upon His authority and power to forgive sins. In biblical times, a person’s name represented all that a person was. Because Jesus has all authority and power, the name of Jesus not only represents His character but also His authority and power.

The chief priests and elders were no doubt furious as they heard about more and more people being baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. The murderers of Jesus hated Jesus’ name because it was a continual proclamation of His authority. Not only did the chief priests and elder hate Jesus’ name, but they also hated those who trusted in that name (just as Jesus promised they would in Luke 21:17). When the apostles performed a miracle in the temple, the chief priests and elders called them before the Sanhedrin to testify by what name they had acted. Regardless of the opposition, the apostles continued to proclaim Jesus’ name as the only hope of salvation.

Healing in Jesus’ Name (Acts 3:1–10)

The healing occurred when the apostles Peter and John went to the temple. It was three in the afternoon (“the ninth hour”), one of three times each day for prayer (3:1). Because the afternoon sacrifice was offered at this time, the temple was likely crowded with those who had come to observe the sacrifice and offer prayers. Although the text does not specify why Peter and John went to the temple, perhaps they had gone to pray and/or witness to Jesus’ resurrection.

Just as the apostles were about to enter the temple through the gate called Beautiful (which most likely separated the Court of the Gentile from the Court of the Women), a lame beggar asked them for alms (a charitable donation of money) (Acts 3:3). The man had been lame since birth and had to be carried to the temple each day to beg (3:2). After getting the man’s attention (3:4–5), Peter told him that he didn’t have any money but that he would give what he did have (3:6). Peter then said to the man, “In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up and walk.” Peter performed the miracle in Jesus’ name to demonstrate that Jesus alone had the power and authority to heal the man.

The crowds were amazed by what happened next. After Peter grabbed him by the hand, the man’s “feet and ankle bones received strength” (Acts 1:7). The man not only walked but also “entered the temple with them—walking, leaping and praising God” (1:8). (When the man had been lame, he was not allowed into the temple [Lev. 21:17–20; 2 Sam. 5:8].) The people “were filled with wonder and amazement” (1:10) as they realized that the man they saw “walking and praising God” (1:9) was the same one who had been begging by the Beautiful Gate.

Testimony to Jesus' Name (Acts 3:11–26)

After leaving the temple, Peter addressed the amazed crowds under Solomon's portico, a large covered area outside the temple (Acts 3:11). When Peter explained the miracle to the crowds, he began by refocusing the object of their amazement. While the crowds had been staring at Peter and John, Peter told them that the miracle had not come about by their "own power or godliness" (3:12). The miracle had not because of anything special in themselves. Before telling them the source of the miracle, Peter continued by describing how God had glorified and resurrected Jesus from the dead (3:13–15). Peter bluntly contrasted God's glorifying of Jesus with the crowd's delivering of Jesus to Pilate, rejecting Jesus before Pilate, asking for the release of a murderer, and murdering of Jesus (3:13–15). Unlike the crowds who wickedly took Jesus' life, Jesus is described as God's "Servant," as the "Holy One and the Just," and the "Prince of Life." (The Prince of Life is a title which describes Jesus as the beginner of life.) No doubt, some of the crowd knew where Peter's sermon was headed. After declaring their guilt of rejecting God's servant, Peter announced that it was Jesus' power that had performed the miracle. Peter said, "His name...has made this man strong" (3:16). Because of the apostle's faith in Jesus' name ("through faith in His name"), the man had been healed.

The crowds must have been afraid as they realized that the Man they had killed had been resurrected by God and had power to heal...and destroy. Before calling upon them to repent, Peter encouraged the crowds that repentance was possible because they had acted in ignorance (3:17). He also explained that God had worked through their wickedness to accomplish His prophesied will that "Christ would suffer" (3:18). Peter then called on the crowds to repent and be converted (by turning to God) (3:19).

When Peter called on the crowds to repent, He encouraged them with the benefits of repentance. The first benefit would be that their sins would be "blotted out" (Acts 3:19). Only after repentance could their sins be forgiven, even the sin of killing God's Servant. The second benefit would be that "times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord" (3:19). The times of refreshing refer to the coming millennial kingdom and are synonymous with the "times of restoration of all things which God has spoken by the mouths of all His holy prophets since the world began" from verse 21. The third benefit is closely connected with the second: "that He may send Jesus Christ" (3:20). Because Christ will not return until Israel repents (Matt. 23:39; Romans 11:26; Zechariah 12:10–14:9), Peter pleaded for the Jews to repent so that Christ would return, establish His Kingdom, and bring with Him times of restoration. The fourth benefit was that they would avoid God's judgment for ignoring His Prophet (Acts 3:22–23). Peter quoted from Moses' prophecy in Deuteronomy 18:15,19 (supplemented by Leviticus 23:29) which warned against ignoring God's future Prophet, understood by Jews to be a reference to the Messiah. Not only does Moses testify to Christ but Peter points out that all the prophets foretold about Him (3:24). The basis of Peter's last appeal is that the Jews are in a covenant relationship with God because they were the descendants of Abraham. God had promised Abraham, "And in your seed all the families of the earth shall be blessed" (3:25). Although all nations would be blessed by Abraham's descendant Jesus, God sent Jesus to bless Israel first by turning them away from their sins (3:26). Peter appealed to Israel not to miss out on God's promised blessing by not repenting (Luke 24:47).

Opposition to Jesus' Name (Acts 4:1–22)

While Peter and John preached in the temple, the religious leaders became worried and jealous. The priests who were serving in the temple (only a fraction of the priests served in the temple at any one time), the captain of the temple (the second

most important temple official in charge of temple security), and the Sadducees arrested Peter and John (4:1). The Sadducees were the most powerful religious sect in Israel. They were composed of aristocratic landowners who wanted relations with the Roman empire to remain stable. The leaders were “greatly disturbed that Peter and John taught the people,” no doubt threatened by these untrained and unauthorized religious teachers (4:2). They were also offended that they “preached in Jesus the resurrection from the dead” (4:3). While true that the Sadducees did not believe in the resurrection of the dead, the Sadducees must have been particularly annoyed that the apostles preached resurrection in Jesus. The Sadducees had killed Jesus because they were afraid Israel’s stability would be jeopardized if the people followed Him (John 11:49–50). Even though Peter and John had been arrested, their preaching was still effective. God worked through Peter’s sermon and there were now five thousand men who believed (Acts 4:4).

After spending the night in jail, Peter and John were questioned before the Sanhedrin the next day (Acts 4:5). The Sanhedrin was a seventy-one member council, consisting of the ruling priests, elders and scribes. Among those present were Annas, who had been high priest from A.D. 6–15, and the current high priest Caiaphas, both of whom had been involved in Jesus’ conviction (John 18). They questioned the apostles, asking “By what power or by what name have you done this?” (Acts 4:7). The Sanhedrin wanted to know who the apostles represented, by what authority they preached in the temple, and by what power they had healed the man.

Just as Jesus had promised (Luke 12:11), the Holy Spirit taught the apostles how to respond. In submission to the Father’s will and dependent upon Him, Peter was filled with the Holy Spirit and answered the Sanhedrin (Acts 4:8). He began his sermon by testifying that the man had been made well “by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth...by Him this man stands here before you whole” (4:9–10). Similar to how Peter addressed the crowds the previous day, Peter began by explaining the source of the miracle but continued by declaring the death of Jesus at the hands of the Jews, by proclaiming God’s resurrection of Jesus, and by demonstrating that Scripture had been fulfilled (4:10–11). Peter finished His sermon where He had started—with the name of Jesus. Peter concluded, saying, “Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved” (Acts 4:12). Peter had not only proclaimed Jesus’ power to heal the body but also proclaimed Him as the only who can save men’s souls.

The Sanhedrin was confused how to respond to the apostles. They could only marvel at these “uneducated and untrained men” who spoke with such “boldness” (Acts 4:13). Unlike themselves, the apostles had received no formal theological or rabbinical training but the apostles still spoke boldly before the highest Jewish officials. The Sanhedrin also realized that the men “had been with Jesus” and perhaps recognized they were among His closest disciples (4:13). No doubt the religious leaders had presumed the threat Jesus presented to their authority had passed. But now the Sanhedrin was confronted not only with the apostles’ teaching of salvation in Jesus’ name but also with the miracle which had been done in Jesus’ name. The man who had been healed was standing in their presence (4:14). (Whether he had been jailed with the apostles or only present as a witness is not known.)

The Sanhedrin spoke among themselves and tried to decide how best to stop the spread of Jesus’ name. They realized that they could not act openly against the apostles because so many people knew about the miracle and had glorified God because of it (4:21). Instead, they decided to severely threaten Peter and John and warn them “to speak to no man in this name” (4:17–18). When Peter and John expressed their commitment to obey God instead of men (4:19–20), the Sanhedrin simply repeated their threats and let the apostles go (4:21,23).

Exaltation of Jesus' Name (Acts 4:23–31)

After being released, Peter and John returned to “their own,” a group which was not limited to but definitely included the other apostles. After hearing about what had happened to Peter and John, those present joined in prayer that Christ’s name would continue to be exalted. Their prayer began with praise to the sovereign God who had prophesied through David that the Christ would be opposed by the “kings of the earth” and the “rulers” (Acts 4:23–26) The same God who had made the earth was in control when “both Herod and Pontius Pilate, with the Gentiles and the people of Israel” gathered in opposition against Jesus (4:27). Their prayer affirmed that the rulers “gathered together to do whatever Your hand and Your purpose determined before hand” (4:27–28). Just as God had predestined the violence against Jesus, He had also predestined the current threats against His witnesses. Resting in God’s sovereignty, the group petitioned God for continued boldness in preaching His Word and that more miracles would be done in Jesus’ name (4:29–30). Even though the name of Jesus had drawn persecution, the believers were committed to exalting His name, both through their message and through miracles.

As soon as they had finished praying, God answered their prayer. Those present knew their prayer had been answered when “the place where they were assembled together was shaken” (Acts 4:31). After each of them was filled with the Holy Spirit, “they spoke the word of God with boldness” (4:31). Those filled with the Spirit continued to exalt the name of Jesus.

Conclusion

Although saints no longer do miracles in the name of Jesus, God himself continues to do miracles when He brings rebellious men to repentance and submission to the name of Jesus. Despite popular ideas that man can be saved without submitting themselves to Christ, the name of Jesus is still the only name under heaven given men by which they must be saved. Those who have experienced salvation in Jesus’ name should follow the apostles’ example by being Spirit-filled and proclaiming with boldness the name of Jesus.

POINT TO THE TRUTH

*“Give ear, O my people, to my law; incline your ears to the words of my mouth.”
—Psalm 78:1*

This section includes questions to review last week’s lesson and ideas to prepare students for this week’s lesson. Choose from the following ideas to point to the truths of this lesson.



Review Questions

Where were the apostles waiting on the day of Pentecost?
They were waiting in Jerusalem as Jesus had told them to do.

What did the people hear?
They heard a noise that sounded like a rushing wind.

What did they see?
They saw things that looked like flames above the people.

What did the apostles begin to do?
They began to speak in different languages.

What did the people think about this?
Some people thought they had been drinking alcohol.

What did Peter say to the people?
He told them that they were not drunk but explained what was happening. He told them about Jesus and how they could be saved.

What did the people do?
Many people trusted in Jesus to save them from the punishment of their sins.



What's in a Name?

The name of Christ Jesus is the most important part of today's lesson. His name after all is one of power and authority, as is evident in both the miracle of the beggar and Peter's sermon. Only through the name of Jesus could the beggar have been healed before those in the temple, and only through His name can man be forgiven of their sin. Peter was quick to point out this out. There is no other name that has this type of authority and power. Because He is supreme above all, one day every person will bow in submission and adoration before the name of Jesus Christ. To illustrate this discuss with the students how powerful a name can be. Give an example of a child telling another child that Dad said to do something. Explain that since Jesus is God His name was all powerful even over everything in creation.



Guess Who?

Select one of the students as a volunteer. Then write down the name of one of the other students on a piece of paper. Without letting the rest of the class see the name on the piece of paper, show the chosen volunteer the name. The object of the game will be for the volunteer to begin describing the classmate whose name is on the piece of paper (i.e., what color are they wearing, are they quiet or loud, an artist or athlete, boy or girl, etc.). As the student begins to describe the person whose name is on the piece of paper, the rest of the class will try to guess which classmate is being described. The point of the game is to illustrate the importance of a name. Explain to the class how we are able to think of a lot of things about a person, even when we just see their name written down. Well in today's lesson we learned that name of Jesus means a lot. In His name is all power and authority work miracles and provide salvation.

Variation: Choose a contemporary or historical person and describe their character. Ask students to guess who it is and the first person who guesses it correctly wins.

PROCLAIM THE TRUTH

"Telling to the generation to come the praises of the LORD, and His strength and His wonderful works that He has done." —Psalm 78:4

This section includes the Bible lesson, lesson questions, and praise and worship ideas. Song suggestions are included that you can use to proclaim your worship to God. Use the lesson questions to check the students' understanding. This section also includes various presentation ideas to use alongside the teaching time. Read the Bible passage several times before you read these pages. All teaching should be done right from the Bible.

Bible Lesson

Passage Outline:

Healing in Jesus' Name (Acts 3:1–10)

Testimony to Jesus' Name (Acts 3:11–26)

Opposition to Jesus' Name (Acts 4:1–22)

Exaltation of Jesus' Name (Acts 4:23–31)

Introduction

All of us have a name. Those that are close to us most likely know our names. Well in biblical times names meant a lot more than they do today. In Jesus' day a person's name said everything about that person. As we will see in today's lesson, Jesus' name was no exception. Because Jesus has all authority and power, the name 'Jesus' stood for all the power and authority that He possessed. To understand this very special name, let us now look at Acts 3:1–4:31 to see all that was done in the name of Jesus.



Lead-off Questions (LOQs)

LOQ: What miracle occurs at the beginning of today's lesson?

Answer: At the beginning of today's lesson a man's crippled legs are healed and he is able to walk. The apostles Peter and John meet a crippled man outside of the temple begging for money. Since Peter and John had no silver, gold, or money to give him, they gave him the only thing they had. This was faith in the person and power of Jesus Christ. Peter said to the man, "In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up and walk" (3:6). Peter then grabbed the man pulling him to his feet. At that very moment the man's shriveled legs were made strong. The man then not only walked but also "entered the temple with them—walking, leaping, and praising God" (1:8).

LOQ: By whose power was the crippled man healed and able to walk?

Answer: Peter had performed the miracle in Jesus' name, not his own. That he performed the miracle in Jesus' name demonstrated that Jesus alone had the power and authority to heal the man. It was the power of Jesus that healed the man, not Peter's.

LOQ: What was the crowd's response to the miracle?

Answer: The people "were filled with wonder and amazement" (v.10) as they

realized that the man they now saw “walking and praising God” (v. 9) was the same one who had been begging at gate of the temple.

LOQ: What does Peter testify to those who were amazed at the miracle?

Answer: Peter ultimately testifies to Jesus Christ, the Servant of God who died was resurrected and is now glorified by God Himself. He makes sure that the crowd knows who has healed this man, telling them that the miracle had not come about by his own power but by the power of Christ. Peter then tells the crowd that they are guilty for having killed Jesus. Because of their sin and guilt, Peter then calls the crowd to repent, or turn from their wickedness, and thus receive the forgiveness of sins through Jesus Christ.

LOQ: What was the reaction of the priests who were in the temple where Peter was preaching?

Answer: While Peter and John preached in the temple, the religious leaders became worried and jealous. These priests and Sadducees were greatly disturbed and offended that Peter and John were preaching in the name of Christ. Remember these were the men who had murdered Jesus. They hated and despised the name of Jesus because it represented an authority and power that they themselves did not have. In their irritation and dislike for the name of Christ, they arrested and questioned Peter and John.

LOQ: What do the religious leaders ask of Peter and John?

Answer: The Sanhedrin questioned the apostles, asking “By what power or by what name have you done this?” (4:7). The Sanhedrin wanted to know who the apostles represented, by what authority they preached in the temple, and by what power they had healed the man.

LOQ: How does Peter respond to the Sanhedrin’s question?

Answer: Immediately after the Sanhedrin’s question Peter was filled with the Holy Spirit and answered the Sanhedrin with boldness. He began by testifying that the man had been made well “by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth” (4:9-10). Peter again explains that the source of the miracle was in the powerful name of Jesus. Yet Peter does not stop there. He goes on to conclude, saying, “Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved” (4:12). Peter had not only told of Jesus’ power to heal the body but also proclaimed Him as the only one who can save men from their sins.

LOQ: Was the opposition from the priests and Sadducees then able to stop God from working through Peter’s testimony of Christ?

Answer: The Sanhedrin decided that the only way they could stop the spread of Jesus’ name was to threaten the apostles not speak in the name of Christ. Despite the Sanhedrin’s threats, Peter and John still thought that it would be better to obey God rather than man. Because of this the apostles continued tell others and perform miracles in the name of Jesus. In the end, the opposition from the religious leaders was not able to stop the power of God. God worked through Peter and the apostles’ testimony and there were now five thousand men who believed in Jesus. All five thousand men now had faith in Christ and received salvation.

LOQ: What do Peter and John do after the Sanhedrin had released them?

Answer: Once released, Peter and John went back to their friends, telling them all what had happened before the religious leaders of the temple.

LOQ: How do Peter and John's friends respond to the reports of persecution?

Answer: After hearing about what had happened to Peter and John, those gathered began to pray to God. Their prayer began by praising God for being sovereign. They knew that the same God who had made the earth was still in control of the situation. Since they trusted that God was still in control, they asked God for continued boldness in preaching His Word and that more miracles would be done in Jesus' name (vv. 29-30). Even though the name of Jesus had drawn some persecution and hardship, the believers were still committed to exalting and praising His name.

LOQ: How did those gathered know that their prayer had been answered?

Answer: As soon as they had finished praying, God answered their prayers. Those present knew their prayer had been answered when "the place where they were gathered together was shaken" (v. 31). After each of them were then filled with the Holy Spirit, "they spoke the Word of God with much boldness" (v. 31). Those filled with the Spirit continued to exalt (or praise) the name of Jesus.

Summary

Peter, John, and the rest of the apostles are on a mission. Christ has died, resurrected, ascended, and now stands glorified before the Father. Now their task is to be obedient to Christ's command to tell the world about Him. In today's lesson we find Peter and John being obedient to this command as they meet a cripple beggar at the entrance gate of the temple. In the name of Jesus and by the power of Christ the man is healed and able to walk. While the newly restored man leaps and praises God, the crowd around him stands amazed at the incredible miracle that has just taken place. Peter quickly takes this opportunity to be a witness unto Christ. He makes sure that the crowd knows who has healed this man, telling them that the miracle had not come about by his own power but by the power of Christ. Peter then tells the crowd that they are guilty for having killed Jesus. Because of their sin and guilt, Peter calls the crowd to repent, or turn from their wickedness, and thus receive the forgiveness of sins through Jesus Christ. Despising the name of Christ, the Sanhedrin has Peter and John thrown in jail. There they are questioned as to what power or in whose name they do this miraculous work. Peter, being filled with the Holy Spirit, answers the Sanhedrin with boldness. He begins by testifying that the man had been made well "by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth" (4:9-10). Peter again explains that the source of the miracle was in the powerful name of Jesus. Yet Peter does not stop there. He goes on to proclaim how Jesus alone has the power to heal both the body and save men from their sins. Only through His name can a person be saved. A name with such power is worthy to be praised. This is evident in the reaction of those who had repented of their sin and believed in the Lord, some five thousand people. They gathered together praising God and praying for continued boldness to speak God's Word. God showed that He had answered their prayers and that He truly was deserving of all praise by shaking the very house they were in and then filling each of them with the Holy Spirit.

Application

That Jesus has such power and authority is a comforting thing. Every believer should be thankful that God has allowed him or her the blessing of hearing about

salvation in Jesus' name. Those of us who do submit to the name and authority of Christ will most assuredly experience some sort of persecution in life. When that time comes, we like Peter and John, should choose to obey God rather than man. Meanwhile, each of us should look for every opportunity to proclaim salvation in Jesus' name with boldness. For apart from Christ's name and the blood that He shed on the cross, no man will be saved.

Presentation Ideas



A Beka Book® Flash-A-Cards®

Use appropriate A Beka Book® Flash-A-Cards® with the lesson.



Betty Lukens Flannel Graph

Use appropriate flannel graph pieces with the lesson.



The Teacher Said So...

The following skit shows the power that a name can possess. A student is playing on the playground when he begins to throw rocks at another student. The teacher observes what is going on and then instructs another classmate to go and tell the student to stop throwing rocks, since this is against the rules. The student with the new message goes out onto the playground and says that the teacher (Mrs. _____) says to stop throwing rocks. Illustrate to the class why the disobedient student should listen to his classmate and quit throwing rocks. The disobedient student should listen not because his classmate said so, for they are equal, but because the teacher (Mrs. _____) said so.

He should listen to his classmate because he comes in the authority of His teacher. He comes in the teacher's name.



Boldness to Witness

Pose a skit to demonstrate courage in sharing the gospel. In the skit, a student begins to share the gospel with one of his friends but is very shy and fearful. Afraid of what his friend might think the student is unable to finish sharing the truth about Christ. Yet the friend's salvation is at stake. If he does not hear about Christ he will go to hell. Knowing this, the fearful student stops and prays, asking God for boldness to share the gospel. Once having prayed, the student receives boldness from the Lord and is able to finish sharing Christ with his friend. This would be a great opportunity to share the gospel with the student yet again, and to demonstrate similar way believers prayed for boldness in today's lesson.

Praise and Worship

I Lift My Eyes Up

Come Let Us Worship and Bow Down

Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above

PRACTICE THE TRUTH

“That they may set their hope in God, and not forget the works of God, but keep His commandments.” —Psalm 78:7

Choose ideas from this section that review and apply the truths of the Bible lesson.



Birth Certificate of Jesus

Advance Preparation: Make a photocopy of the birth certificate on cardstock for each student to fill out after the lesson.

Directions: Instruct the students to turn to Matthew 1:21 in their Bibles. Inform the students that this passage reveals why God instructed Joseph to name His son Jesus. Read the passage aloud with the students. Pass out a blank birth certificate and writing utensil to each student. Instruct the students to fill out the birth certificate with the appropriate information:

Official Name: Jesus

Meaning of Name: “He will save his people from their sins” —Matthew 1:21

Person Giving Name: Joseph, as instructed by the Angel of the Lord

Date of Birth: 4 B.C.

Place of Birth: Bethlehem

Mother: Mary

Father: God



Small Group Activity: Answered Prayer

Materials: a piece of paper and a pencil for each student

Directions: Read Acts 4:29–30 as a group. Guide students in listing four prayer requests of the companions of Peter and John. Read Acts 4:31 and Acts 5:12–16 to reveal the corresponding answers to prayer. Instruct students to list the answers next to the appropriate prayer request. Use this activity to emphasize lesson objective: Tell how the believers’ prayer was answered.



Jesus’ Name Bookmark

Have each child can make one bookmark using a variety of materials. On one side, have the children decorate the name Jesus. On the other side, have them glue on or write the Bible verse, Acts 4:12.



Leaping Man Marionette

Materials: simple cut-outs of a head, arms, legs, body, and rectangle for each student, four brads per student, yarn,

Directions: Have students decorate the face, body, arms, and legs. Attach the arms and legs to the body with brads loosely. (Make sure the arms and legs can turn easily.) Lay puppet face down with arms down and feet up. Lay the rectangle above puppet. Tape yarn from the back of the head to the center of the rectangle (approx 5 inches). Tape the yarn from each hand to the bottom of the rectangle (approx 9 inches). Tape the yarn from each foot to the higher marks on the rectangle (approx 16 inches). Turn rectangle card over and tape a six-inch piece of yarn across to make a handle. Slide hand into handle and try to operate marionette. Adjust yarn accordingly.



“Name of Jesus” Stained Glass Window

Materials: Photocopies of the Jesus pattern on cardstock (two for each student), colored tissue paper, scissors, glue

Directions: Instruct the students to cut out the letters “JESUS” on both sheets of cardstock; keeping the outside of the letter’s intact. (Adults may need to assist younger students in this task. Dicutts may also be used.). Dispose of the letters or use these for another craft. Allow students to select colored tissue paper, and cut it into squares slightly larger than each letter of Jesus’ name. Show students how to glue the tissue paper onto one sheet of cardstock by applying glue around the outside of the letters. Once all tissue paper is adhered, show students how to glue the two sheets of cardstock together to form a stained glass window. Allow time for the glue to dry. Encourage students take home their craft to declare salvation in Jesus’ name with boldness!



“The Name Game”

Materials: copies of “The Name Game” craft page, crayons, a coin, and something to represent a token

Directions: Pass out a craft page to each student. Allow them to decorate the game then read the directions and play the game. When the game is complete, read the Bible verse, Acts 4:12, and talk about what it means.



“Peter and John Preach the Gospel”

Use this worksheet to reinforce the key truths of today’s lesson. It is located at the back of this lesson.



2
3

Small Group Activity: “The Name Above All Names”

Give each student a copy of the journal page at the back of this lesson. He or she can complete the page individually, in a small group, or at home.

Coloring Pages

Give each student a copy of the coloring pages from the back of the lesson. He or she can color the pages in class or take them home to color.



MEMORY VERSE

“Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.” —Acts 4:12

Certificate of Live Birth

Official Name

Meaning of Name

Person Giving Name

Date of Birth

Place of Birth

Mother

Father

Stained Glass Window

JESUS

“Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.” —Acts 4:12

The Name Game

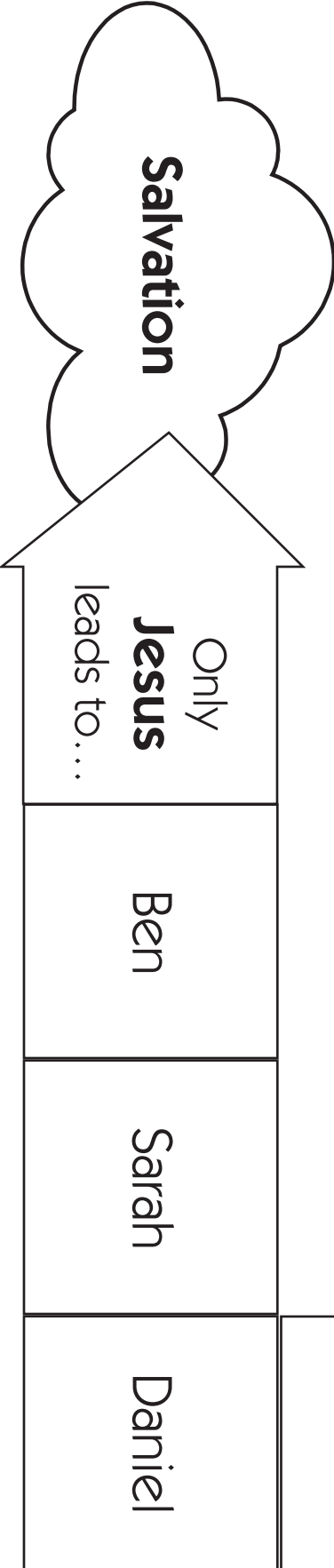
Place your token at the start. Flip a coin. Move one space if the coin lands on "heads" or two spaces if the coin lands on "tails." Cross out the name on the space if it is not the name by which we are saved.

START

Peter	Mary	Stephen	Anna	James	Rebecca
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“Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.”

—Acts 4:12



Peter *and* John *preach* the Gospel



Acts 3:1–4:31

Name _____

1. Who did Peter and John come across on their way into the temple?

2. What was the man asking for? _____

3. Fill in the blanks with Peter's response from Acts 3:6.

"_____ and gold I do not have, but what I do have I give you:

In the name of _____ of Nazareth, rise up

and _____."

4. True or False: The man praised Peter for healing him. _____

5. True or False: Peter and John were arrested for preaching about Jesus. _____

6. In Acts 4:27–31 the disciples pray for _____ to preach God's Word, and God answers by giving them what they request.

The Name Above All Names

“Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.”

—Acts 4:12

Do you know the meaning of your name? Why did your parents give you your name? Often parents name their children after relatives or give them a name that has a special meaning that the child can live up to, but the names in Bible times had significant meaning. Names told people something about the person. For example, God said, “you shall call His name Jesus for He will save His people from their sins” (Matt 1:21).

Today’s Bible verse makes it very clear—the name of Jesus brings salvation. Look up the following verses and write next to it something the verse tells you about the name of Jesus.

Acts 3:6

Acts 4:2

Acts 4:29

In the space below write some other things that Christians do in Jesus’ name:

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Are you sometimes timid about proclaiming the name of Christ? In Acts 4:29, Peter and the other disciples were punished for their faith, but they prayed to God that they would be empowered with boldness. You can pray for boldness, too. God wants you to tell others about the great name of Jesus that brings salvation.

I will pray for boldness to tell _____ about Christ.

I will give thanks in Jesus' name for:

I will ask Christ to help me understand His word that I may know the power of His name when I:

PRAYER

Thank God that He sent someone to tell you of salvation in His Son. Ask Him to give you boldness and knowledge of His word so that you may tell others.

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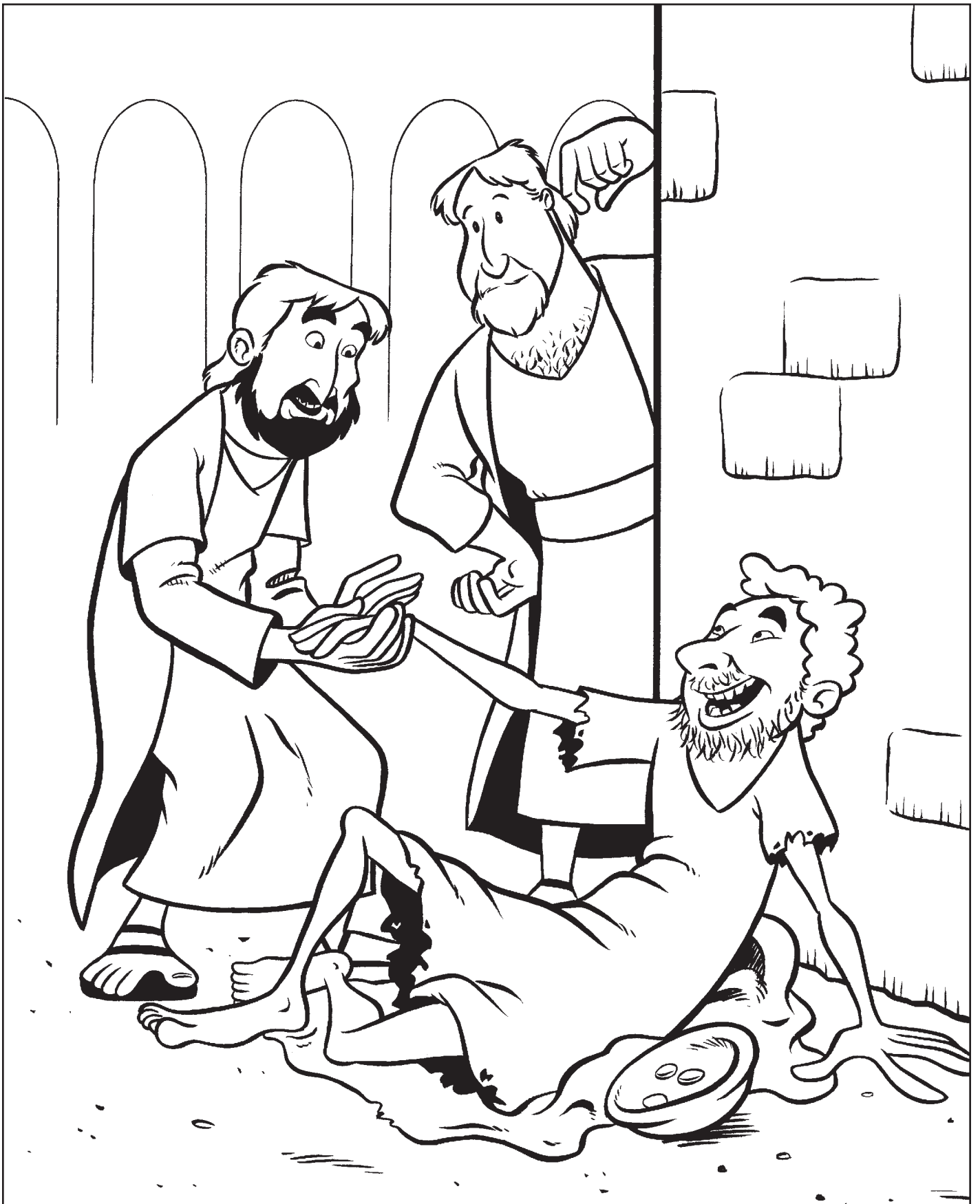
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**"Then Peter said, 'Silver and gold I do not have, but what I do have I give you:
In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up and walk.'"**

—Acts 3:6



“Now as they spoke to the people, the priests, the captain of the temple, and the Sadducees came upon them, being greatly disturbed that they taught the people and preached in Jesus the resurrection from the dead.” —Acts 4:1-2

